

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace all prior claims with this listing of claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (previously presented). A frame member for a folding tool of the type having first and second folding tool bits pivotable between folded and extended positions, said frame member comprising a first elongate plate having a first integral flange extending outwardly from said plate in a first direction along at least a portion of said plate, said first flange having a first integral leaf spring capable of bearing upon a base of said first folding tool bit, said frame member including a second integral flange extending in a second direction said second flange including a first integral leaf spring capable of bearing upon a base of said second folding tool bit, said frame member further including a second plate and third flange, said second flange integral with and extending outwardly from said second plate in said second direction, said third flange integrally joining said first and second plates at least along a portion of the length of said plates so as to form a channel.

Claims 17-25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (previously presented). A frame member according to claim 27 wherein said channel floor includes an integral leaf spring.

Claim 27 (currently amended). A frame member for a folding tool, said frame member comprising an elongate channel having a first and second substantially opposed sidewalls joined

by an integral channel floor extending along at least a portion of said channel, an elongate integral first flange extending outwardly from said first sidewall along at least a portion of said sidewall in a first direction away from said channel, said first flange including an integral leaf spring, and said frame member further including an elongate integral second flange extending outwardly from said second sidewall in a second direction away from said channel, said second flange including an integral leaf spring.

Claim 28 (previously presented). A frame member according to claim 27 wherein said sidewalls have upper and lower edges, said channel floor connects said lower edges of said sidewalls, and said first and second flanges extend outwardly from said upper edges of said respective sidewalls.

Claims 29-31 (canceled).

Claim 32 (currently amended). A subassembly of a folding tool, comprising:

(a) an elongate, channel-shaped frame member having first and second spaced-apart sidewalls ~~jointed~~ joined by an integral channel floor along at least a portion of said channel;

(b) a first elongate integral flange extending outwardly from said first sidewall in a first direction away from said channel, said first flange having a first integral leaf spring;

(c) a first pivot pin extending away from said first channel sidewall in said first direction;

(d) a first tool bit pivotably mounted outside said channel on said first pivot pin for pivoting movement between folded and extended positions, said first spring bearing against a base of said first tool bit;

(e) a second tool bit pivotably mounted in said channel for pivoting movement between folded and extended positions; and wherein

(f) said first pivot pin also extends into said channel, said second tool bit pivotably mounted on said first pivot pin.

Claims 33-36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (previously presented). A subassembly according to claim 32 including a spring within said channel bearing against a base of said second tool bit.

Claim 38 (original). A subassembly according to claim 32 further including a second elongate integral flange extending outwardly from said second channel wall in a second direction away from said channel, said second flange including a first integral leaf spring and a third tool bit pivotably mounted outside said channel, said leaf spring associated with said second flange bearing upon a base of said third tool bit.

Claims 39-42 (canceled).

Claim 43 (original). A channel-shaped frame member for a folding tool comprising a pair of spaced-apart side plates integrally joined by a channel floor, and further including first and second integral flanges extending outwardly from said first and second side plates in first

and second directions away from said channel, each of said flanges including an integral leaf spring.

Claim 44 (previously presented). A channel-shaped frame member according to claim 43 wherein said side plates each include upper and lower edges, said channel floor connecting said lower edges of said side plates, said flanges extending outwardly from said upper edges of said respective side plates.

Claim 45 (canceled).

Claim 46 (new). A handle for a folding tool comprising an elongate channel-shaped frame member having an outer margin with a first elongate side and first and second spaced-apart elongate channel walls integrally joined together by a channel floor to define a channel, said frame member further including an integral first external flange extending outwardly from at least a portion of said first channel wall in a first direction away from said channel, said first external flange including an integral first leaf spring, said first leaf spring forming a portion of said first elongate side of said outer margin.

Claim 47 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said first external flange forms a portion of said first elongate side of said outer margin.

Claim 48 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said outer margin of said channel-shaped frame member has a second elongate side, said second channel wall forming a portion of said second elongate side of said outer margin.

Claim 49 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said first channel wall has an upper edge and said first external flange extends outwardly from said upper edge of said first channel wall.

Claim 50 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said channel-shaped frame member has first and second ends and said first external flange has an integral second leaf spring, said first leaf spring being located proximate said first end of said channel-shaped frame member and said second leaf spring being located proximate said second end of said channel-shaped frame member.

Claim 51 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said channel-shaped frame member has first and second ends, said first leaf spring being located intermediate said ends.

Claim 52 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said channel floor is elongate and the length of said channel floor is substantially less than the length of one of said elongate channel walls.

Claim 53 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said channel floor includes a first integral leaf spring.

Claim 54 (new). The handle of claim 46 further including at least one independent spring arranged in said channel.

Claim 55 (new). The handle of claim 46 wherein said channel-shaped frame member further includes an integral second external flange extending outwardly from at least a portion of said second channel wall in a second direction away from said channel.

Claim 56 (new). The handle of claim 55 wherein said outer margin of said channel-shaped frame member includes a second elongate side, said second external flange forming a portion of said second elongate side of said outer margin.

Claim 57 (new). The handle of claim 55 wherein said second external flange includes an integral first leaf spring.

Claim 58 (new). The handle of claim 57 wherein said first leaf spring of said second external flange forms a portion of said outer margin of said channel-shaped frame member.

Claim 59 (new). The handle of claim 55 wherein said second direction is substantially opposite said first direction.

Claim 60 (new). The handle of claim 55 wherein said second channel wall has an upper edge and said second external flange extends outwardly from said upper edge of said second channel wall.

Claim 61 (new). A frame member for a folding tool comprising a single channel having a pair of opposed first and second channel walls integrally joined by a channel floor, and further including an integral first external flange, extending outwardly from said first channel wall in a first direction away from said channel.

Claim 62 (new). The frame member of claim 61 wherein said first external flange includes an integral first leaf spring.

Claim 63 (new). The frame member of claim 61 further including an integral second external flange extending outwardly from said second channel wall in a second direction away from said channel.

Claim 64 (new). The frame member of claim 63 wherein said first external flange includes an integral first leaf spring and said second external channel includes an integral first leaf spring.

Claim 65 (new). The frame member of claim 61 wherein said frame member defines an outer margin having an elongate first side margin, said first external flange forming a portion of said first side margin.

Claim 66 (new). The frame member of claim 63 wherein said frame member defines an outer margin having elongate first and second side margins, said first and second external flanges respectively forming portions of said first and second side margins.

Claim 67 (new). The frame member of claim 61 wherein a portion of said first external flange is flexible, said flexible portion comprising a leaf spring.

Claim 68 (new). The frame member of claim 67 wherein said frame member defines an outer margin having an elongate first side margin, said leaf spring forming a portion of said first side margin.